

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3722

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UR

SUBJECT: 25TH PARTY CONGRESS: MORE ON CC AND CAC ELECTIONS

REF: MOSCOW 3508

1. FURTHER STUDY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE (CC) AND CENTRAL
AUDITING COMMISSION (CAC) RESULTS HAS DISCLOSED THE FOLLOWING:

-- K.I. ZARODOV, EDITOR OF "PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM," WAS
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NOT PROMOTED AT THE 25TH CONGRESS, AS MISTAKENLY REPORTED IN

PARAGRAPH 13 OF MOSCOW 3508. ZARODOV WAS REELECTED AS A CANDIDATE CC MEMBER;

-- THE L.N. SMIRNOV REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH FOUR OF MOSCOW 3508 PROBABLY IS LEV NIKOLAYEVICH SMIRNOV, CHAIRMAN OF THE USSR SUPREME COURT. ALTHOUGH HIS PREDECESSOR, A.F. GORKIN, WAS ONLY A CAC MEMBER, ELEVATION OF THE SUPREME COURT CHAIRMAN TO FULL CC MEMBERSHIP WOULD BE IN KEEPING WITH BREZHNEV'S EMPHASIS ON SOVIET LEGALITY IN HIS CC REPORT TO THE 2TH CONGRESS.

2. WE HAVE ALSO NOTICED THAT OFFICIALS CONNECTED WITH PRESS AND PROPAGANDA WORK DID EXCEEDINGLY WELL AT THE CONGRESS, WHICH SUGGESTS THAT SUSLOV MAY HAVE SUCCEEDED IN MOVING UP SOME PROTEGES (INDEED, OLD MOSCOW HAND ED STEVENS OF NEWSDAY, PROTECT, RECENTLY TOLD US HE WAS CERTAIN THESE PROMOTIONS STEMMED FROM SUSLOV'S CONTINUING ENORMOUS POWER IN THE LEADERSHIP). FOR EXAMPLE:

-- M.V. ZIMYANIN, EDITOR IN CHIEF OF "PRAVDA", WAS ELEVATED TO THE CC SECRETARIAT (HE HAD BEEN A FULL CC MEMBER);

--V.G. AFANAS'YEV, EDITOR OF "KOMMUNIST", WAS MADE A FULL CC MEMBER ALTHOUGH HE HAD PREVIOUSLY HELD NO CC OR CAC POSITION. HIS PREDECESSOR AT "KOMMUNIST", A.G. YEGOROV, HAD BEEN ONLY A CANDIDATE CC MEMBER;

--A.G. YEGOROV, IN TURN, MOVED FROM CANDIDATE TO FULL CC MEMBER-SHIP IN HIS NEW POSITION AS RECTOR OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S INSTITUTE OF MARXISM-LENINISM;

--L.M. ZAMYATIN, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TASS, JUMPED FROM THE CAC TO FULL CC MEMBERSHIP;

--L.N. TOLKUNOV, WHO RECENTLY MOVED FROM EDITOR IN CHIEF OF "IZVESTIYA" TO DIRECTOR OF THE NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY, WAS ELEVATED FROM CANDIDATE TO FULL CC MEMBER;

--P.F. ALEKSEYEV, NEWLY APPOINTED EDITOR OF IZVESTIYA, MOVED FROM CANDIDATE TO FULL CC MEMBERSHIP;

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-- B.I. STUKALIN, CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR PUBLISHING, WAS MADE A FULL CC MEMBER ALTHOUGH HE WAS PREVIOUSLY IN NEITHER THE CC NOR THE CAC;

--L.A. KULIDZHANOV, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE UNION OF CINEMATO-GRAPHERS, WAS PROMOTED FROM THE CAC TO CANDIDATE CC MEMBERSHIP;

-- G.L. SMIRNOV, FIRST DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE CC PROPAGANDA DEPART-

MENT, WAS ELECTED A CANDIDATE CC MEMBER ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT BEEN IN THE CAC.

3. OFFICIAL SOVIET SPOKESMAN FOR THE CONGRESS, "KOMMUNIST" EDITOR V.G. AFANAS'YEV, REPORTEDLY TOLD WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS THAT ZIMYANIN WOULD NOT STAY ON AS EDITOR IN CHIEF OF "PRAVDA", WHILE CHERNENKO WOULD CONTINUE IN HIS PRESENT POSITION AS HEAD OF THE CC'S GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

4. WE NOTED IN PARAGRAPH EIGHT OF MOSCOW 3508 THAT SEVERAL "GROUP B" MINISTERS WERE PROMOTED. WE CAN NOW ADD TO THEIR NUMBER S.F. ANTONOV, MINISTER OF THE MEAT AND DAIRY INDUSTRY, WHO MOVED FROM THE CAC TO FULL CC MEMBERSHIP AT THE 25TH CONGRESS.

5. COMMENT: WHILE OUR MEAGER BIOGRAPHIC FILES DO NOT ALLOW US TO TRACE THE CAREER TIES OF THE INDIVIDUALS LISTED IN PARAGRAPH TWO ABOVE, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT SUSLOV, IN HIS ROLE AS GENERAL OVERSEER OF IDEOLOGICAL MATTERS, PLAYED A LARGE ROLE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE PROMOTIONS. IF THIS IS SO, WE MAY BE OBSERVING SOME OF THE RESULTS OF POLITBURO HORSETRADING, WITH IDEOLOGUE SUSLOV ON ONE SIDE AND HIS MORE PRAGMATIC COLLEAGUES -- PERHAPS INCLUDING BREZHNEV -- ON THE OTHER (WE DOUBT THAT SUSLOV COULD HAVE MOVED HIS PEOPLE UP OVER THE STRONG OBJECTION OF BREZHNEV AND HIS SUPPORTERS). THE APPOINTMENT OF BOTH ZIMYANIN (IN THE SUSLOV CAMP) AND CHERNENKO (IN THE BREZHNEV CAMP) TO THE CC SECRETARIAT MAY ALSO INDICATED A PROCESS OF BALANCING ON THE PART OF THE TOP LEADERS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIPT OF THE WASHINGTON INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY'S DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE CC AND CAC ELECTIONS AND THEIR LIKELY IMPLICATIONS FOR SOVIET POLICY.

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